

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/602,001

Examiner

Lorna M. Douyon

Applicant(s)

WEBER ET AL.

Art Unit

1751

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to application filed June 23, 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6, 8-23 renumbered 1-22 respectively.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 23 June 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Lorna M. Douyon
Lorna M. Douyon
Primary Examiner
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2.10. In claim 9d9):

- a) line 2, "d8i)" has been replaced with --d9i)--;
- b) line 4, "d8ii)" has been replaced with --d9ii)--;
- c) line 5, "d8iii)" has been replaced with --d9iii)--;
- d) line 6, "d8iv)" has been replaced with --d9iv)--.

2.11. In claim 9e) line 1, --selected-- has been added after "polymers".

2.12. In claim 9e) line 2, --consisting-- has been added after "group".

2.13. In claim 9g) line 1, "LCST" has been replaced with --lower critical separation temperature (LCST)-- and "selected from" has been deleted .

2.14. In claim 22:

- a) lines 2-6 have been deleted;
- b) line 7, "inhibitors, and mixtures thereof" has been replaced with --is present--;
- c) line 8, "from" (second occurrence) has been deleted.

2.15. In claim 23:

- a) lines 2-7 have been deleted;
- b) line 8, "thereof" has been replaced with --is present--.

2.16. In the specification on page 4, before line 15, the following has been added:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

Figure 1 is a coating process according to the invention.--

2.17. The TITLE has been replaced with the following:

--PROCESS FOR COATING DETERGENT TABLETS--.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Glenn E.J. Murphy on May 5, 2004.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

2.1. In claim 1, line 12 (last line), the following phrase has been added after "transported":
--and wherein the coating material is applied in the form of a solution or dispersion or in the form of a melt--.

2.2. Claim 7 has been canceled.

2.3. In claim 9a) line 1, --selected-- has been added after "polymers".

2.4. In claim 9a) line 2, --consisting-- has been added after "group".

2.5. In claim 9b) line 1, --selected-- has been added after "polymers".

2.6. In claim 9b) line 2, --consisting-- has been added after "group".

2.7. In claim 9c) line 1, --selected-- has been added after "polymers".

2.8. In claim 9c) line 2, --consisting-- has been added after "group".

2.9. In claim 9d) line 1, --selected-- has been added after "polymers"
and --consisting-- has been added after "group".

STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The most pertinent prior art known to the Examiner is listed on the attached forms PTO-892 and 1449. Angell et al. (WO 99/51715), the closest art, teach a process for producing a non-particulate (e.g. tablet) laundry detergent by spraying finely divided powder onto the detergent tablets, the process comprising placing the detergent tablets on a conveyor belt having perforations or openings therein, mounting multiple electrostatic powder spray guns above and below the conveyor belt where a cloud of charged particles is emitted from the guns directly at the tablets from both sides of the conveyor belt wherein the particles are uniformly distributed on the surfaces of the tablets (see abstract; page 12, lines 353-359). Angell, however, fails to teach, disclose or suggests a process wherein the coating material is applied in the form of a solution or dispersion or in the form of a melt. Accordingly, the subject matter, as a whole, would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the detergent art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lorna M. Douyon whose telephone number is (571) 272-1313. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Fridays from 8:00AM to 4:30 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yogendra Gupta can be reached on (571) 272-1316. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Lorna M. Douyon

Lorna M. Douyon
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1751